

2020

ANNUAL REPORT

Wyoming Department of
Public Safety



KIMBERLY S. KOSTER
PUBLIC SAFETY CHIEF

Written & prepared by Sgt. Julie Haverkamp
Assisted by Intern Jessica Oostindie

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Rising to the challenge is what the members of the Wyoming Department of Public Safety do best. As we look back over 2020, there were many difficult challenges and, like always, we rose to the occasion every time. On March 13, the President of the United States declared a national emergency due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Our agency quickly developed and implemented safety protocols that kept our entire staff safe. Although we prepared a comprehensive Continuity of Operations Plan in the event that we had a high number of quarantined public safety personnel, we experienced very few COVID-19 infections. Our staff took the necessary precautions, both at work and at home, so that we

could continue to serve the community throughout the pandemic. Despite significant risk to their own health, our firefighters performed their EMS role with flawless detail, comforting and caring for those with COVID and others who were experiencing medical issues during such an uncertain time. Our police officers and firefighters found creative ways to deliver the same quality of service and outreach to our community while maintaining safe distance. Instead of hosting “coffee with a hero” events, we hosted “drive-by birthday parties”. During “March Reading Month”, we partnered with the Kent District Library and recorded our public safety staff reading books and put them out on-line through Facebook and NextDoor.com. By the end of the year, we increased our followers on NextDoor to more than 15,000 residents. In July of 2020, we received the Golden Post Award for BEST NEXTDOOR presence by a government agency in the United States. Our pandemic response proved that we are an agency filled with talented, caring, passionate and resilient people.

In May of 2020, the death of George Floyd and the civil unrest that followed had a profound impact on not only communities nationwide and the law enforcement profession in general, but on our own police officers. The trust we had worked so hard to build with our community was in jeopardy, through no fault or action of our own officers who, on a consistent basis, serve ALL people with fairness and respect.

On May 30, 2021, we assisted our neighboring police agency with a peaceful protest that turned unlawful. For the first time in many decades, our field force training and protective equipment were put to the test. Our officers, both experienced and novice, were thrust into a situation that had turned violent and out of control. Although our newly formed Bicycle Tactical Team proved to be an effective tool, we lost five of our police cruisers that were purposely set ablaze. Thankfully, none of our officers were physically injured and we responded to every situation with nothing but professionalism. When it was over, we continued the work to maintain our community's trust. Individually, our officers continued to serve and despite the challenges, they never wavered in their commitment to protect our community.



As an organization, we not only had dialogue with community members, but with each other. We reviewed our policies and made changes to reflect and renew our commitment to our core values which include HONOR, COURAGE, DUTY and TRUST. We revisited and addressed important issues, including topics related to the duty-to-intervene, de-escalation, and use-of-force. The necessary dialogue and our agency's self-reflection will continue as we consistently strive to meet the needs of our entire community.

In October of 2020, we implemented a body-worn camera program. Although we had in-car cameras for more than a decade, we knew that moving toward body-worn cameras would provide the most benefit in terms of enhancing officer safety, strengthening community trust and maintaining a transparent and objective record of events. An added benefit, and possibly one of the greatest, has been our ability to document the professional work our officers perform in service to our community.

Over the last five years, our City has seen a steady increase in violent crime. In 2020, we experienced 65% more violent crimes than were reported in 2015. We saw a record number of homicides this year, eight in total, and our "shots fired" calls more than doubled over the previous year. Despite continued growth in our city's population, our authorized staffing level has remained at 88 since 2004 when the department experienced layoffs. Although we are an agency with a longstanding commitment to community policing, we have seen an unfortunate but necessary trend toward reactive policing due to our limited staffing levels.

As we look forward to next year, our City Manager approved the hiring of four new police officers, increasing our authorized strength from 88 to 92 sworn police personnel. The additional staff will allow us to dedicate more resources to building relationships, problem-solving and pro-active strategies aimed at crime reduction.

Our firefighters continue to see a steady increase in demand for their services as well. Our current proposal for additional fire personnel would most likely require the City Council to approve a ballot initiative to increase revenue through a millage, city income tax or another funding source. We are hopeful that, given a chance, our citizens will recognize and support our need to enhance our fire prevention program and increase our fire service response.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude for our entire public safety staff. This last year proved what we already knew. You are ALL dedicated heroes and you make this community a safer and better place to call home. And to our Wyoming community and partners, I want to say "thank you" for your consistent and unwavering support. We love answering your calls.
Be safe.

Chief Kimberly S. Koster

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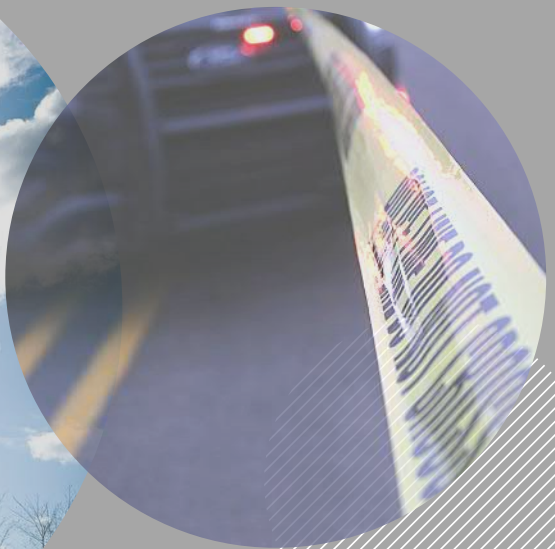
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WHO WE ARE

VISION, MISSION & VALUE STATEMENT

OUR VISION

We recognize the value of establishing and maintaining community partnerships. From our professional staff and sworn members, to the many citizen and business groups who assist us in the fulfillment of our mission, we remain committed to the further enhancement of these partnerships. We will continually strive to develop the skills of our members, and to efficiently and effectively manage our resources to deliver the highest level of police service to the Citizens of Wyoming.

OUR VALUES

HONOR - COURAGE - DUTY - TRUST

OUR MISSION

The **DUTY** of the Wyoming Police Department is to serve the people of our community with dignity, respect, fairness and compassion. We serve with **COURAGE** to protect life and property and maintain law and order. We will uphold the **TRUST** placed in us to safeguard constitutional guarantees and will do so with **HONOR** worthy of those who have served before us.



2020 YEAR-END SWORN & CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Kim Koster

POLICE CAPTAINS

Kip Snyder
James Maguffee

POLICE LIEUTENANTS

Kirt Zuiderveen
Joe Steffes
Timothy Pols
Mark Easterly
Eric Wiler

POLICE SERGEANTS

John McCaw
Corey Walendzik
Dave Hunt
Brian Look
Dan Mahoney
Julie Haverkamp
Ross Eagan
Robert Aungst
Jeremy Walter
Chris DeBoer
Rob Meredith
Rory Allen
Robert Robinson

POLICE OFFICERS

Russell Kamstra
Margaret McKinnon
Eric Grunewald
Michael Moore
Adam Bartone
Pamela Keen
Shad McGinnis
Scott Rittenger
Devon Holmberg
Matthew Rooks
Dennis Ferguson
Jason Caster
Douglas Smit

Jason Caster
Douglas Smit
Mitchel Veldman
Ben Durian
Ryan Silvis
Philip Swiercz
Rachel Clore
Erich Staman
Blair Shellenbarger
Dwayn Holmberg
Dan Vlietstra
Anthony Jacob
Chad Lynn
Ryan Patterson
Ben Hecksel
April Kroschel
Anastasia Armstrong
Dennis Pittman
Kesha McConaha
Nicholas Weemhoff
Aaron Freeman
Andrew Koeller
Jennifer Eby
Lee Atkinson
Daniel Sanderson
Aaron Gray
Antonio Hutchins
Aaron Brooks
Joshua Yancho
Michael Nachteggall
Kelsey Eisen
Marcus Donker
Daniel Patterson
Brady Heckman
Devin Quintard
Brandon Knowling
Tyler Zbikowski
Jacob Bylsma
William Elwell
David Hopson
Zachery Jackson
Christian Bomer
Adam Sherman

Tiffany Curtis
Jack Tromp
Logan Wieber
John Westra
David Lingaur
Jeffrey Chapman
Quinton Bernard
Arrow Kotarak
Anthonee Carringe

FORENSIC TECHNICIANS

Supervisor Terra Wesseldyk
Todd Masula
Julia Carmody
Celia Rhodes
Julie Coon
Kasey Kaufman

RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Supervisor Jessica Behenna
Shavonne Bridgewater
Kristen Hand
Sara Bredt
Wesley Merrick

ADMINISTRATIVE

SPECIALISTS
Marcy Schaller
Megan Baas

POLICE OFFICER STAFFING

Staffing Data

At the end of 2020, the Wyoming Police Department was authorized to staff 88 sworn officers. Staffing has remained relatively the same from the previous years. In 2020, we added six new officers; John Westra, David Linguar, Jeffrey Chapman, Quinton Bernard, Arrow Kotarak, Anthonee Carringer, and Nathan Honderd.

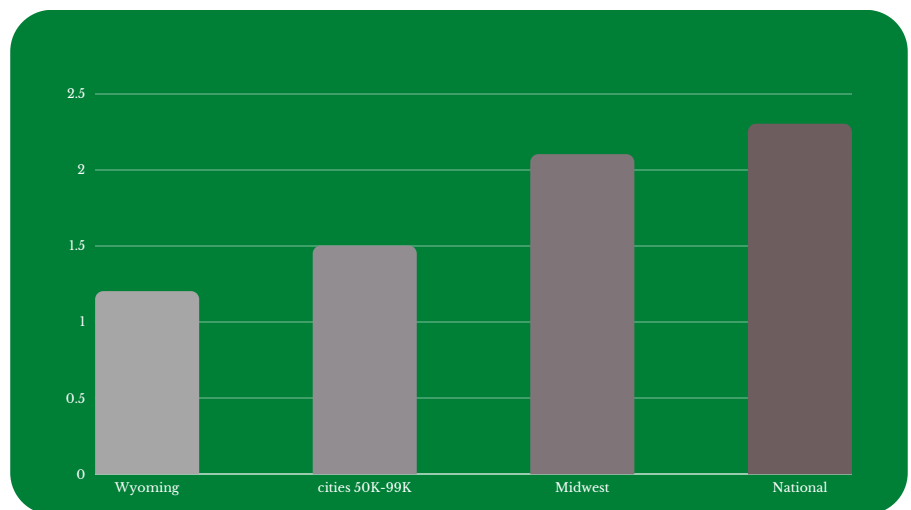
In May of 2020, Rory Allen was promoted to the rank of Sergeant with the retirement of Sgt. Jeff Bylsma. WYPD staffing continues to rank below the FBI's national average of 2.4 officers per 1,000 residents. Wyoming currently has 1.17 officers per 1,000 residents.

Sworn Staffing

National Comparative Analysis

Number and Rate Per 1,000 Inhabitants

Source: FBI 2013



RETIREMENTS



Sgt. Jeff Bylsma
27 years of service



Ofc. Carmen Morales
28 Years of Service



Ofc. Al Cho
24 Years of Service

2020 YEAR-END FIRE SERVICES EMPLOYEES

FIRE CHIEF

Brian Bennett

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

Dennis VanTassell

FIRE MARSHALL

Bill Aman

FIRE INSPECTOR

Brad Dornbos

FIRE LIEUTENANTS

Chris Velzen

Bryan Butcher

Brad Deppe

FIRE EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

Brian Illbrink

Dan Deppe

Lance Bowman

Brandon Travis

Tom Marsman

Brad Bennett

Steve Boetsma

FIRE FIGHTERS

Eric Campbell

Daniel Royce

Michele Kelly

Matt Frazee

Jason Hanlon

Anthony Bennett

Matt Young

Jesse May

Jason Richardson

Dan Rettig

Zach Jones

Andrew Good

Bryce Roth

Brett Wright

Andrew Johnson

Samuel Jones

Kennith Eppink

ADMINISTRATIVE

SPECIALIST

Josh Switzer

PAID-ON-CALL FIREFIGHTERS

Brandon Bigler

Dave Dykema

Brian Fryling

David Gates

Justin Haverkate

Nick Illbrink

Brandon Krauss

Ranfis Perez

DUAL TRAINED EMPLOYEES

Blues Heintzelman

Garrett Hilliker

Anis Jukanovic

Lacey Koens

Joel Koerner

Ted Otten

Brian Sarber

Jay Van Dyke

RETIREMENTS



Firefighter Todd Yonkers
21 Years of Service



FIREFIGHTER STAFFING

STAFFING DATA

The Fire Department combines full-time, part-time, dual trained and paid-on-call staff to cover Wyoming's service area of 26 square miles. Full-time staff work 24 hour shifts divided among three squads that consist of a lieutenant and 9 firefighters. The full-time staff are supplemented by Dual-trained or Paid on Call (POC) staff who are ready and available when large-scale emergencies arise. Dual-trained employees work for the City of Wyoming in other positions, but are also trained as firefighters and respond when needed while they are working their normal shift. Paid-on-call staff are trained firefighters who respond from home to assist with fires or other large-scale emergencies.

WYFD added four new firefighters in 2020; Roth Bryce, Brett Wright, Andrew Johnson and Samuel Jones.

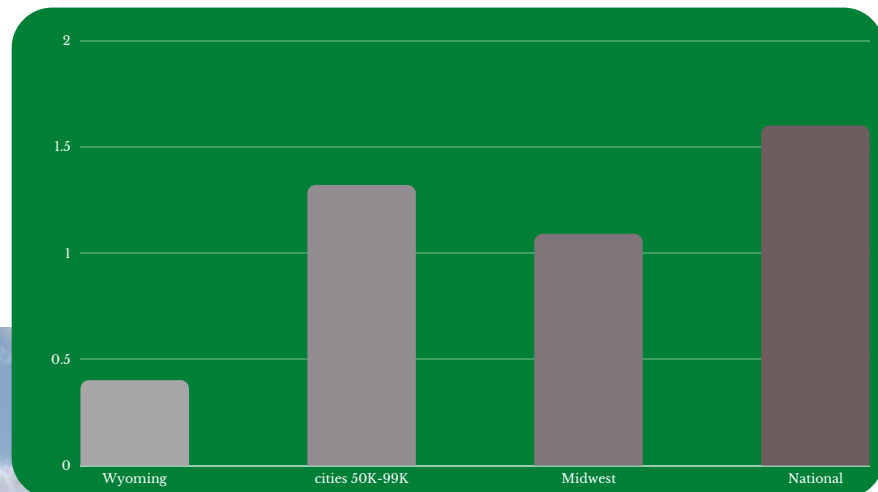
Brandon Travis was promoted from Firefighter to Equipment Operator.

WYFD continues to operate well below the NFPA national average of 1.6 firefighters to 1,000 residents. Wyoming currently employs .4 firefighters per 1,000 residents.

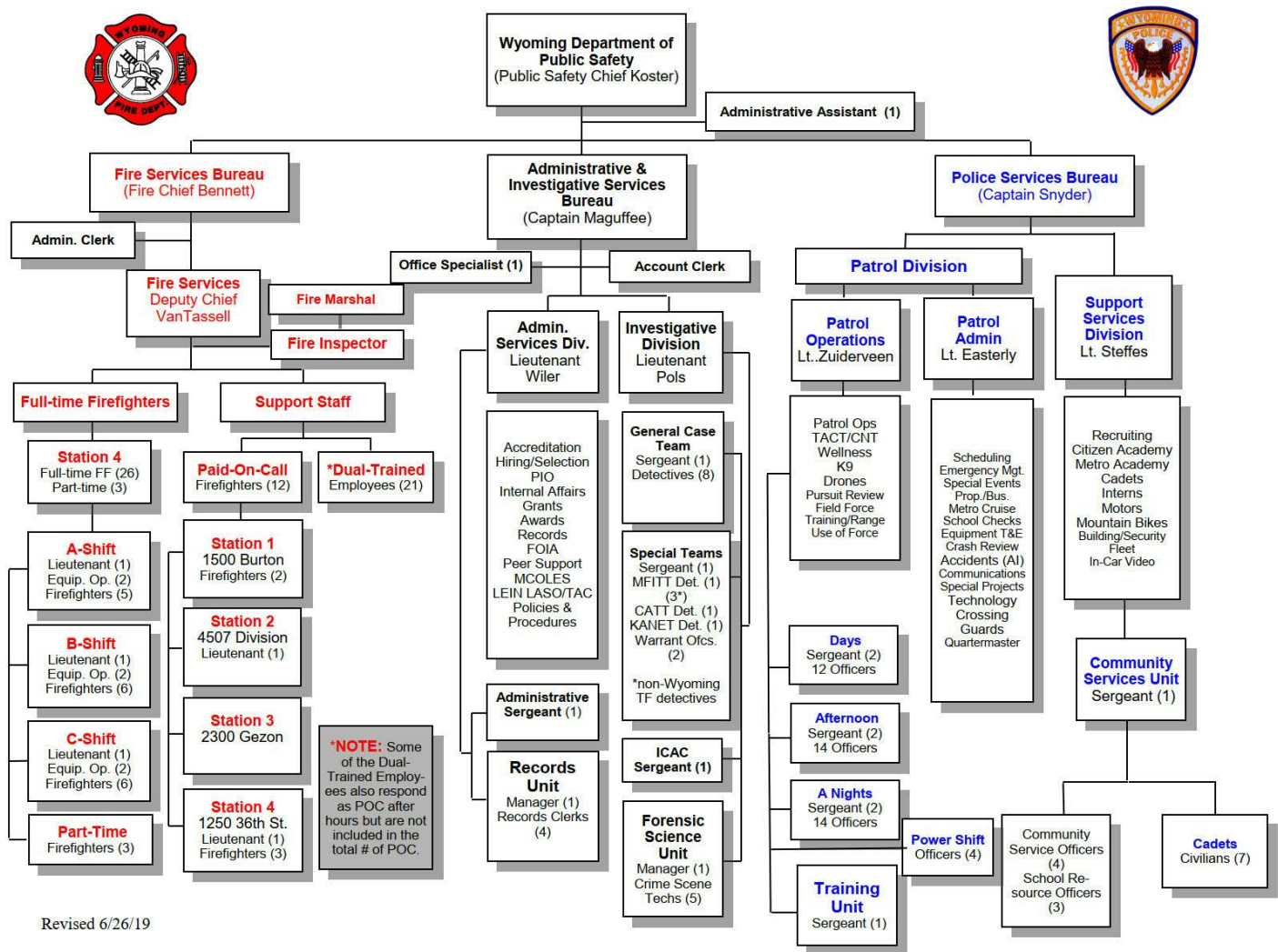
Fire Staffing

National Comparative Analysis Number and Rate Per 1,000 Inhabitants

Source: NFPA 2018



2020 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



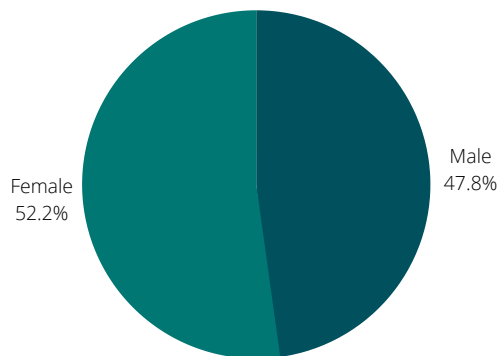
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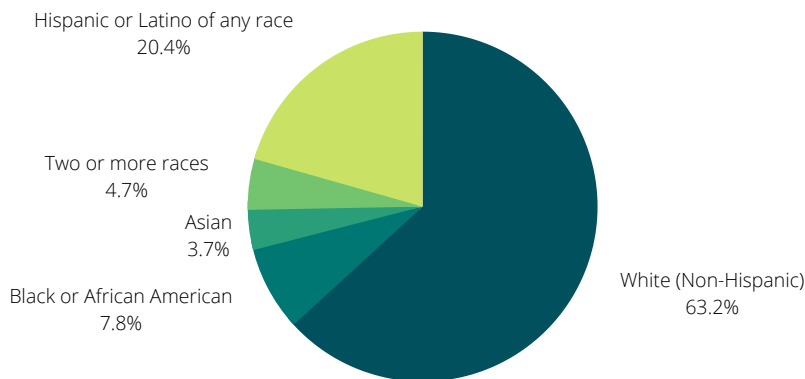
OUR COMMUNITY

WYOMING AT A GLANCE

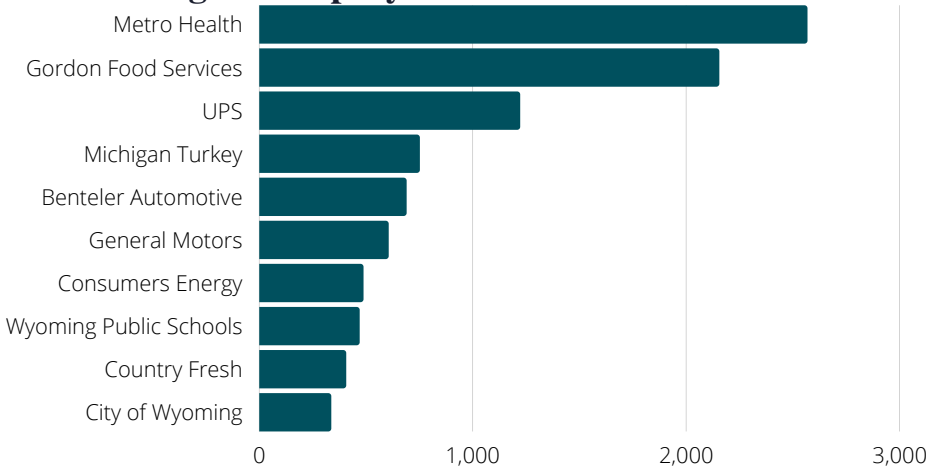
Population by Gender:



Population by Race:



Largest Employers:



Community Profile

The City of Wyoming is hardly your typical city. Rather than spreading out from an original point of settlement, this community grew from the outside in. Today it's downtown is a three-and-a-half mile stretch of five-lane 28th Street, one of Michigan's busiest roadways.

Though commercial establishments are scattered throughout Wyoming today, the greatest concentration is along 28th Street. Wyoming City Hall is there, too---directly across the busy street from Rogers Plaza, the first shopping mall in Kent County.

Early in its first year as a city, Wyoming officials sifted through contest entries and selected a motto---'City of Vision and Progress.' It has proved to be an appropriate choice. The city appears to have had 20/20 vision and continues to make great progress.

Wyoming's population continues to grow. Today, Wyoming is Michigan's 16th largest community with west Michigan's third largest industrial tax base. The City has grown to 72,125 strong with a diverse cultural base, seven school districts, a balance of older and modern homes, retail variety and an abundance of parkland. All this takes place in a region that is proud, independent, and growing while still competitive.

The City of Wyoming is a perfect location for Independent Retailers to thrive! Come be a part of it!

CITY COUNCIL, LEADERSHIP & GUIDING PRINCIPLES



Curtis Holt
City Manager



Jack Poll
Mayor



Sheldon DeKryger
1st Ward
Council Member



Marissa Postler
2nd Ward
Council Member



Robert Postema
3rd Ward
Council Member



John Fitzgerald
Council Member-
At-Large



Sam Bolt
Mayor Pro-Tem



Kent Vanderwood
Council Member-
At-Large

Mission

Our mission at the City of Wyoming is simple: Community, safety, stewardship.

Vision

A diverse, strong and authentic community where all individuals have the opportunity to thrive.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU



A MESSAGE FROM POLICE CAPTAIN JAMES MAGUFFEE

The Administrative and Investigative Services Bureau is led by a police captain and is responsible for many of the support tasks necessary for the Police and Fire Services Bureaus to operate. On the administrative side, a team consisting of a police lieutenant, a police sergeant, an account clerk, and the Records Unit manage all police document storage and processing, budget management, internal investigations, policy creation and maintenance, hiring, grant procurement, and accreditation. The crucial work of this underrated and very busy team may not be the envy of most police officers they support, but without them nearly every process and task of the Department would come to a halt.

On the investigative side, a team consisting of a police lieutenant, three police sergeants, 12 detectives, and a six member civilian forensic science unit (FSU) act as the criminal investigative arm of the Department of Public Safety. Reviewing more than 15,000 criminal complaints every year and investigating well over 3,000, this team manages everything from juvenile runaways to homicide investigations (a record number of which occurred in 2020).

2020's unprecedented challenges impacted this team in many ways. From trying to figure out how to distance employees who need to closely interact, to how to execute search warrants during a global health pandemic, to establishing remote workstations, and so much more. Additionally, and most challenging was an unprecedented number of violent incidents in our community. Wyoming, like many communities across the country experienced a sudden and shocking increase in shootings, shots fired, and serious assaults. It may take years, or we may never know why and how the complicated mix of events that was 2020 led to such tragic social ills, but there is no denying they occurred. As we endured that, we along with the much of the nation, experienced unrest in our region not seen in decades and asked questions about race, our relationships with our fellow citizens, and how best to police our community during times of intense social challenges and change. Through this, we continued a long tradition of focusing on solutions and experienced what seemed like a return on our long term investment of trust building and sincere community service. That return came in the form of months long showering of support that included, prayers, letters, notes, cards, food, and treats from nearly every corner of our city. In perhaps the most difficult year for police officers in recent memory, we received much love from the people we serve.

I have never been more proud of the men and women of the Wyoming Department of Public Safety and specifically those of the Administrative and Investigative Services Bureau. They are exemplary and stand as an example of all that is good and noble about serving as police officers and civilian police support staff. I salute them.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The Administrative Services Division serves to support the policies, procedures and goals of the police department in accordance with the law as well as with our accreditation affiliate. The Division manages the operational duties the department as well as holding our officers accountable to our high standards during the performance of their duties and during their personal time.

Our Records Unit is a part of Administrative Services and manages all the documentation produced by our officers, detectives and cadets along with acting as a liaison for the Law Enforcement Information Network used by officers for a source of valuable information regarding the individuals involved in police investigations.

Administrative Services plays a vital role in selecting and hiring high-quality candidates to serve in the ranks of the Wyoming Police and Fire Departments. Their functions are further supported through grant writing and requests, peer support and meeting the standards set forth by the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards.

The Division is led by Lt. Eric Wiler. He is supported by Accreditation Sgt. Jeremy Walter, Assistant to the Chief Marcy Schaller, and Accounting Specialist Megan Baas.



Lt. Wiler



Sgt. Walter



Marcy Schaller



Megan Baas

CALEA ACCREDITATION

One of the important roles of the Administrative Services Division is to ensure the continued accreditation of our agency through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Accreditation is a voluntary process that produces comprehensive and uniform written directives that clearly define authority, performance and responsibilities. The standards set by CALEA promote increased community interaction, integrity, accountability and transparency.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Internal Affairs function serves to investigate complaints of police performance or misconduct that occurs on or off duty. Personnel complaints are put into two categories; supervisory inquiries and internal affairs investigations. Supervisory Inquiries are those investigations concerning employee conduct related to less serious allegations such as rudeness, tardiness, or other minor violations. An internal affairs investigation relates to an allegation(s) that, if supported by reasonable suspicion or facts, could result in extended suspension or dismissal from the department. An internal affairs investigation may be related to (but is not limited to) serious allegations such as corruption, brutality, misuse of force, gross breach of civil rights, and/or criminal misconduct.

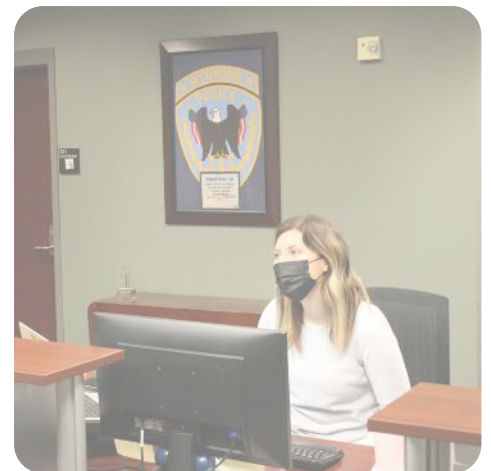
For Public Safety commendations and complaints, please visit the city's website at:
<https://www.wyomingmi.gov/About-Wyoming/City-Departments/Public-Safety-Police/Internal-Affairs>

2020 Internal Affairs Investigations:

Seven investigations involving a total of Six sworn officers, One civilian, and One firefighter
Exonerated: 2
Sustained: 4
Resigned: 1

2020 Supervisor Inquiries:

Fourteen inquiries involving Twenty-Three sworn officers and One civilian
Unfounded: 17
Exonerated: 5
Sustained: 2





INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

The investigative division supervised by Lt. Tim Pols, consists of three sergeants, twelve detectives, two uniformed warrant officers, and six civilian crime scene technicians including a civilian supervisor. The mission of this division is to investigate crimes, obtain warrants, and hold offenders accountable. Additionally, the investigative division conducts liquor law inspections and other licensing investigations. The investigative division works closely with the patrol division and members of the community to follow-up on criminal complaints that were initiated by patrol officers. Detectives also respond to the scene of most major crimes which occur in the City of Wyoming

The Wyoming Police Department Investigative Division houses and supervises the Metro Fraud and Identity Theft Team, a multi-jurisdictional task force focused on all types of fraud, identity theft, and other organized crimes. One Wyoming detective is assigned to the Combined Auto Theft Team, one to the US Marshall's Fugitive Task Force, two detectives work primarily on sex crimes and work closely with the Children's Advocacy Center, and a sergeant is assigned to the Michigan State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. The workspace in the Investigative Division also houses employees from the Michigan Department of Corrections (parole), Kent County Circuit Court Probation, Kent County Family Court (juvenile probation), and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (CPS). This allows detectives to have a close working relationship with these valuable partners and provides a comprehensive approach to needs in our community.

In 2020, Sgt.'s Dan Mahoney and Julie Haverkamp finished their six year rotations in the Investigative Division and were replaced by Sgt.'s Eagan and Meredith.

In 2020 the Investigative Division:

Assigned 3,176 Cases

Received 403 Law Enforcement Notifications/CPS Referrals

Closed 1,029 cases by Arrest/Referred to Juvenile Prosecutor

Closed 588 cases with no Leads/Suspects

Closed 483 cases by Warrant Denied

Closed 279 cases by Police Procedure Completed



Lt. Pols



Sgt. McCaw



Sgt. Mahoney



Sgt. Haverkamp

FORENSIC SCIENCE UNIT

When investigating a crime, the police often rely on witness testimony to tell the story of what happened.

Unfortunately, witness testimony doesn't always exist so investigators need to rely on the physical evidence to speak for those who cannot. Proper and thorough documentation of a crime scene allows the police to determine what happened during the commission of a crime, even in the absence of witnesses.

The Forensic Science Unit is a part of the Wyoming Police investigative division. It is comprised of a civilian supervisor and five technicians. In addition to having expertise in crime scene investigation and evidence processing, the members of this unit specialize in latent fingerprint analysis, drug analysis, and property management. Unique to other agencies its size, the Wyoming Police Department has its own laboratory and is able to provide expert evidence analysis on-site, including: drug analysis, conventional and chemical processing, video analysis, use of alternate light sources, and fingerprint comparison and analysis.

In 2020, the Forensic Science Unit:

Responded to 370 Crime Scenes

Compared 9253 Fingerprints

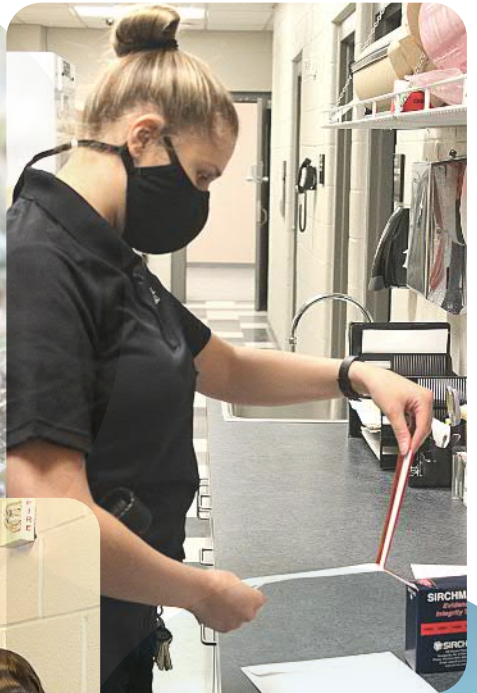
Submitted 737 AFIS Entries

Processed 220 Vehicles

Managed 4989 pieces of Property

Analyzed 167 Drug Evidence Samples

Completed 3498 Service Requests



RECORDS MANAGEMENT

The Records Management Unit proudly serves our community by maintaining all of the reports produced by our officers and by providing the public with access to records in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The Records Unit also performs critical functions that keep our agency in compliance with State and Federal law, such as accurate crime reporting to the state.

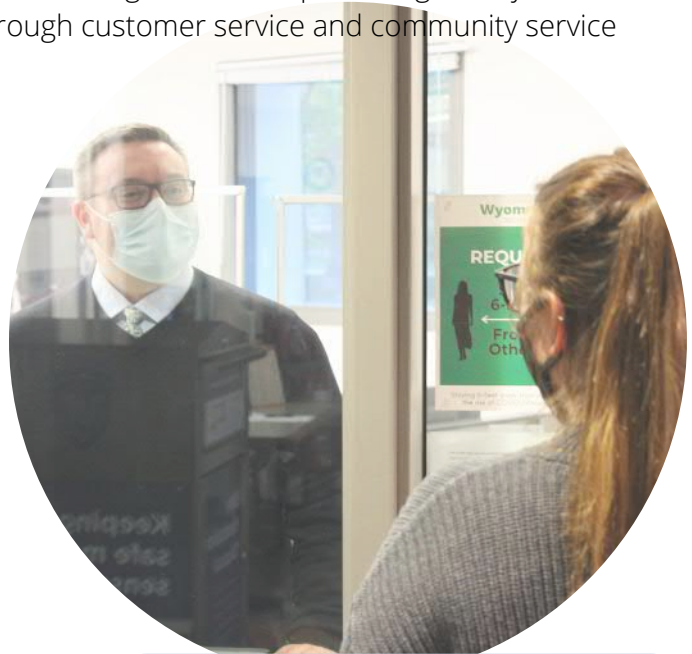
The Unit is supervised by Jessica Behenna and staffed with four Records Clerks who provide customer service to individuals seeking documents, registering firearms, or complying with the requirements of the sex offender registry. On top of these duties, Records Management Staff are responsible for combing through countless pages of reports to determine what information requires redaction prior to being released through FOIA. Despite being mostly behind the scenes, our Records staff still finds time to promote stewardship through customer service and community service projects.

In 2020, the Records Unit:

Processed 582 FOIA Requests

Registered 2,943 Guns

Completed 351 Sex Offender Registry Entries



Supervisor
Jessica Behenna



Shayonne
Bridgewater



Kristen
Hand



Wesley
Merrick



Sara
Bredt





POLICE SERVICES BUREAU

POLICE SERVICES BUREAU



MESSAGE FROM POLICE CAPTAIN KIP SNYDER

The Police Services Bureau includes the Patrol Division and the Support Services Division. There are also several special response teams/units that fall within this Bureau. The personnel within these divisions are almost exclusively in uniform and therefore are the most visible representatives of our police agency.

The Patrol Division consists of an operations lieutenant, an administrative lieutenant, six patrol sergeants, one training sergeant, and currently 46 patrol officers. Special response teams in Patrol include the Tactical Arrest and Confrontation Team (TACT), Canine Unit, Training/Range, and the Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT).

The Support Services Bureau consists of a lieutenant, a sergeant, four community Services officers (CSO), and three school resource officers (SRO). Special response teams in Support Services include the Motor Unit, the Background Investigation Team, the Recruiting Team, Traffic Complaint Response, Police Cadets, and Crime Analysis.

The Police Services Bureau has a few broad and overarching mandates that are woven into the fabric of our culture.

- We are committed to treating all people with dignity and respect in the daily delivery of police services.
- We are committed to treating each other (internally) with this same dignity and respect to promote accountability and to encourage emotional survival. We care deeply for one another.
- We take our professional calling to be cops very serious but work hard at not taking ourselves too seriously.
- We are strong and courageous in the protection of our community and that is job #1. Job #2 is to make it home to our family and friends.
- We try to do what we feel is the right thing...every time...without exception.

As I reflect upon what was the year 2020, it included many enormous challenges and uncertainties for our Bureau. Not the least of which was a worldwide pandemic, violent protests/riots, a negative (national) narrative about police, and a significant rise in gun violence and violent crime in general. Yet through all of this I am reminded that I work with some of the best human beings I have ever known. In their commitment to quality service they have remained resilient in adhering to the fundamental dictates bulleted above. I am immensely proud of each one of them and I believe that our community should be as well.

PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is the most visible unit of the Wyoming Police Department. Uniformed officers are on the front-lines responding to each and every request for assistance by citizens and conducting proactive patrols to keep the community safe. The Patrol Division is led by Lt. Kirt Zuiderveen, who is responsible for patrol operations, and Lt. Mark Easterly, who is responsible for patrol administrative operations. Six patrol sergeants are responsible for the first line supervision of our excellent team of police officers.

In 2020, our Patrol Officers responded to 28,521 calls for service, 1,905 traffic crashes and conducted 3,426 traffic stops.

Patrol Division duties include:

- Respond to Calls for Service
- School Walk-thru Program
- Business and Property Checks
- Conduct Initial Investigations
- Traffic Safety and Enforcement
- Enforce Laws and City Ordinances
- Preserve the Peace
- Build Relationships
- Protect Life and Property
- Crime Prevention
- Community Service

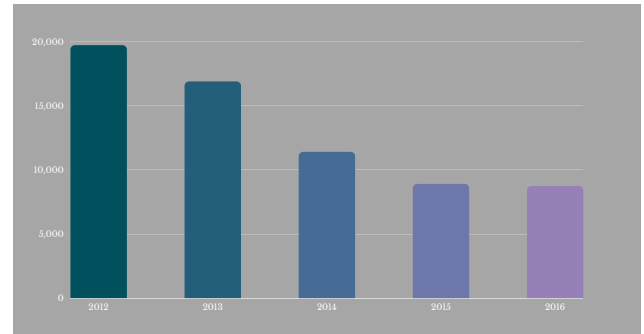


Lt. Zuiderveen

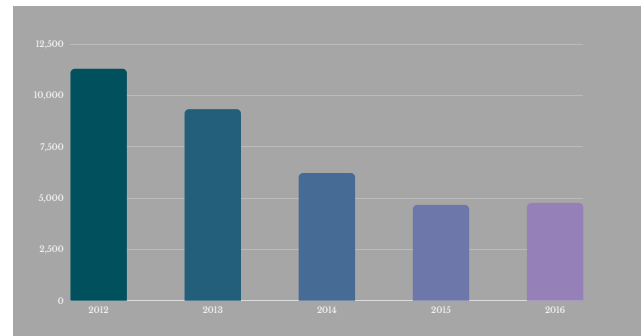


Lt. Easterly

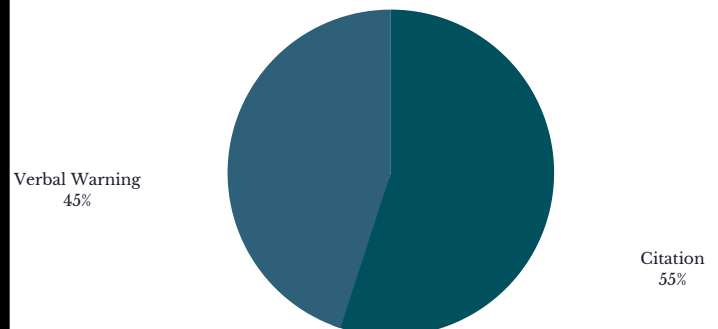
Traffic Stops Five Year Trend



Traffic Citations Issued Five Year Trend



Traffic Stops Citation Issued vs. Verbal Warning





K9 UNIT

The Wyoming Department of Public Safety utilizes four K9 teams assigned to the Patrol Division under the direct supervision of Lt. Kirt Zuiderveen and Sgt. Rob Aungst. All four K9 teams are trained as dual-purpose patrol dogs, which involves both apprehensions of suspects and location of contraband and/or evidence. Each K9 team completes several weeks of in-house training to meet the certification standards developed through the United States Police Canine Association and National Association of Professional Canine Handlers. The K9 teams are required to certify annually with a professional association.

The Unit consists of three German Shepherds and one Belgian Malinois who remain with the handler both on and off duty. One of the goals of the canine unit is to promote positive community relations through demonstrations at schools and various public/community events. These demonstrations help to educate the public on the canine's capabilities and the level of training and skill required to maintain this specialized unit.



Call Types



Ofc. Patterson
K9 Chase



Ofc. Sanderson
K9 Azar



Ofc. Eisen
K9 Kovu



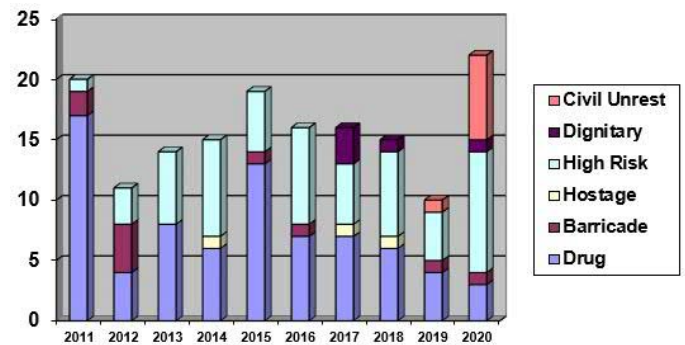
Ofc. Sherman
K9 Jett

TACT & CRISIS NEGOTIATION

The Tactical Arrest and Confrontation Team (TACT) is a highly trained unit with the police department designed to respond to incidents that have a higher risk of death or injury to individuals or the public. The team is made up of members of the police department that serve in a variety of roles, like road patrol officers or detectives. Members could be called to respond during any time of the day or night.

The team was fully staffed for 2020 at 17 members. The team is led by Commander's Lt. Kirt Zuiderveen and Lt. Eric Wiler. Sergeant's Ross Eagan and Chris DeBoer serve as Team Leaders.

Typically the team participates in monthly training, however, due to Covid, training had to be flexible. The TACT team participates in training annually at the Camp Grayling Training Center each fall.



Lt. Zuiderveen



Lt. Wiler



Sgt. Eagan



Sgt. DeBoer

The activation of TACT was requested 22 times in 2020 for the following:

Civil unrest - 7

Homicide investigations - 5

Narcotic investigations - 3

Shooting suspect - 3

Armed Robbery - 2

Dignitary - 1

Barricaded subject - 1

The Crisis Negotiation Team works in conjunction with TACT and is made up of 9 sworn members, 7 from the Wyoming Department of Public Safety and 2 from the Grandville Police Department. The purpose of the team is to minimize the risk of injury and resolve high-risk situations using communication techniques. CNT responds to situations involving barricaded and suicidal subjects and hostage situations.

The Team, led by Lt. Tim Pols, Team Leader Sgt. Rob Meredith, and Assistant Team Leader Sgt. Rory Allen, was activated 3 times in 2020 to respond to a barricaded subject, an armed suicidal subject, and a hostage situation.

Just like the members of TACT, training is critical to maintaining the skills of the negotiators. The team utilizes scenario-based training along with expert-led training courses to remain effective in real-life situations.



Lt. Pols



Sgt. Meredith



Sgt. Allen





TRAINING DIVISION

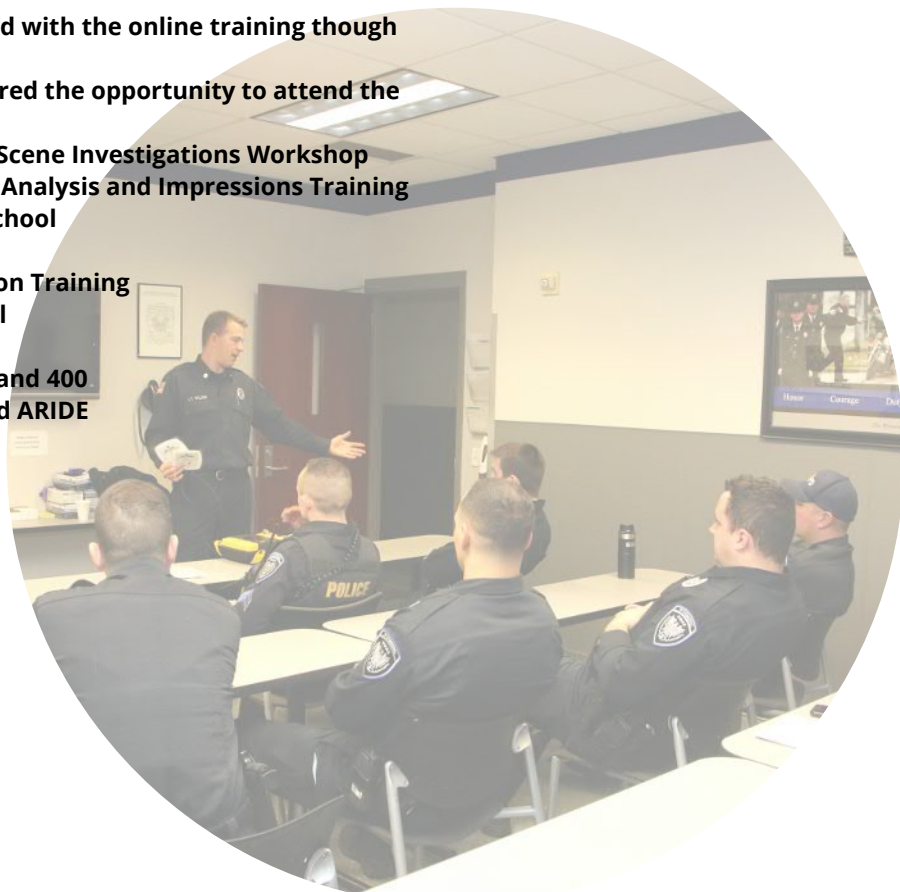
The Training Division, led by Sgt. Robert Aungst, is responsible for meeting the training standards set by the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and for facilitating training that qualifies our officers to become experts in specialized fields. Some of the duties of the training sergeant include holding firearms qualification courses, maintaining training records for all sworn employees, oversight of new hire training, and scheduling in-service training sessions. Sgt. Aungst and the department's team of range officers, defensive tactics instructors, field training officers, and various other instructors continue to seek updated information that keeps our officers educated, skilled, and prepared to serve the public safely and effectively.

The Training Unit documented 4,884 hours of training in 2020 for the 85 sworn officers employed by our agency. Based on these numbers, 85 sworn personnel averaged 58 hours of training for 2020. Additionally, our agency utilized a web-based program through PoliceOne as a source for instructional videos and policy training.

The pandemic led to the cancellation of many training opportunities that our officers usually take advantage of. The training unit adapted and provided officers with the opportunity for virtual training in order to maintain required levels of training and provide the opportunity for additional education to promote the level of proficiency that the Wyoming Department of Public Safety is known for.

Training Highlights:

- **All sworn officers have attended mandatory Legal Update training**
- **We continue to support the West Michigan Criminal Justice Training Consortium through the utilization of instructors in our agency. Their certifications are paid for by the consortium**
- **Officers needing recertification in radar were provided with the online training through MiTrain**
- **Officers with interest in becoming detectives are offered the opportunity to attend the Reid Interview and Interrogation School**
- **Three Evidence Technicians attended Basic Evidence/Scene Investigations Workshop**
- **Several of the Technicians have attended Blood Stain Analysis and Impressions Training**
- **Two officers attended DeWolf Field Training Officer School**
- **One officer attended Basic SWAT School**
- **Two officers have completed the Accident Investigation Training**
- **Two officers attended Basic Crisis Negotiations School**
- **One officer attended Tactical Bike Instructor School**
- **All Command Staff have received training for ICS 300 and 400**
- **Several Officers have attended Emergency Driving and ARIDE**



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

The Support Services Division is led by Lt. Joe Steffes and includes the Community Services Unit and the Cadet Program along with multiple ancillary units that provide services and support during many special events and non-patrol related functions. Fleet management and maintenance is also a function of the Support Services Division. Civilian Matt Kwantes assists with keeping our fleet maintained and in working order.

The Supports Services Unit plays a critical role in staffing at the police department with quality candidates through recruitment, participating in the interview process, and completing in-depth background investigations on conditional new hires. Many of our specialized units and functions fall under the supervision of this Division. Our Tactical Bike Unit as well as our Motor Unit provide support for special events as well as respond to situations of civil unrest.

Our fleet, equipment and building are also maintained by the members of this Division. While much of the work goes on behind the scenes, the duties of the members of this Division are very critical in maintaining and supporting the functions of the Wyoming Police Department.

In 2020, the unit was directly involved in numerous projects and events:

- **Extensive use of Nextdoor for neighborhood watch contacts, information and discussion. We now have over 13,000 of our Wyoming households as part of this social media platform.**
- **70X7 group presentations for felon re-entry program**
- **Annual Grand Rapids Home for Veterans donation drop off from City of Wyoming Collections**
- **Clearing house for backgrounds for Police, Fire, FSU and Records**
- **Officer recruitment**
- **Shop with a Hero.**
- **Expanded and updated crime analysis**
- **FLARE reports**
- **Covid-19 Birthday drive-by**
- **National Night Out celebrations**
- **CRASE training**
- **CPTED evaluations**
- **Developed "Kids Closets" at local schools**
- **Coffee with a Cop**
- **Truancy investigations for the schools that all had an increase as a result of distance learning**



Lt. Steffes



Matt Kwantes



COMMUNITY SERVICES & SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The Community Services Unit is the backbone of the Support Services Division. They had a good year in 2020 despite the global pandemic. Even with restrictions in place to limit personal interaction, the unit still addressed many crime and traffic issues, shared information with the public, attended events where social distancing was possible and found creative ways to connect with community members.

The Community Services Unit is supervised by Sgt. Brian Look and consists of four Community Service Officers and three School Resource Officers. The members of the unit primarily focus on developing relationships with community members to collaborate and problem solve within the city. Crime prevention is a major goal, but the Community Services Officers also deal with quality of life and nuisance issues. Officers in this unit also serve many other roles that include, but not limited to, conducting pre-employment background investigations on officer and firefighter candidates, officer recruitment, truancy investigations, and supporting the road patrol with assistance.

Each School Resource Officer (SRO) is assigned to a district in the City of Wyoming. Kelloggsville Public Schools, Godfrey-Lee Public Schools and Wyoming Public Schools all have contracts with the Wyoming Police Department which designates one police officer to work with the school's administrators to deal with crime and safety in the schools. The safety of children in schools is a high priority at the Wyoming Police Department and our officers strive to visit each school once every day. We work proactively with each school district in our city to protect our children's futures.



Sgt. Look



Ofc. Keen



Ofc. Moore



Ofc. Armstrong



Ofc. Eby



Ofc. Lynn



Ofc. McGinnis



Ofc. Smit

TACTICAL BIKE UNIT

The Tactical Bike Unit is a new concept at the Wyoming Police Department, utilizing new tactics with equipment that we already had at our disposal. The unit was created in conjunction with other West Michigan agencies and was designed to respond to situations of civil unrest. Although the possibility of deploying the team always exists, the reality of 2020 could not be predicted and the team was luckily available to respond to the civil unrest that occurred neighboring Grand Rapids in the aftermath of high profile national events.

The unit is supervised by Sgt. Look from the Community Services Unit and consists of 13 members. Each officer attends specialized training related to police mountain bike operation and focuses on basic movement skills, distance riding, firearms and technical skills related to going over obstacles, downstairs and maintaining balance in crowds.

Despite the hours of training, the Tactical Bike Team and the other WYDPS police officers that responded to assist in Grand Rapids on May 30, 2020 for civil unrest, were not prepared for the level of violence and destruction that they encountered while trying to maintain peace. What began that afternoon as a protest over the death of George Floyd evolved into a full-blown riot resulting in millions of dollars of damage to government and personal property from windows being smashed, fires set, and businesses looted. As members of the Wyoming Police Department moved in on foot to respond to a request from the Grand Rapids Police Department to assist in protecting their headquarters from the rioters, reports started to come in about fires being set to our vehicles parked on an adjacent street. In the aftermath, five of our police vehicles and their contents were completely burned in fires set by the rioters resulting in almost \$400,000 in damage. WYPD would continue to respond into Grand Rapids to assist with civil unrest in the days following. The Tactical Bike Unit would be called to assist several more times throughout the year in anticipation of civil unrest from other high profile national events.





MOTOR UNIT

The Motor Unit falls under the Support Services Division and is supervised by Sgt. Brian Look. Due to Covid, many of the events that the Motor Unit typically participates in were cancelled resulting in fewer deployments. The Motor Officers were utilized during the time usually designated for Metro Cruise and they attended events for National Night Out. Due to 2020 being an election year, the Wyoming Motor Unit assisted with three presidential and/or presidential candidate motorcade events in conjunction with the Michigan State Police and the US Secret Service as well as other area department motor units. Additionally, the motors were used for patrolling neighborhoods for directed patrols and traffic complaints. Sgt. Allen and Officers Lynn, McGinnis and Atkinson join Sgt. Look as the Motor Officers.



HONOR GUARD

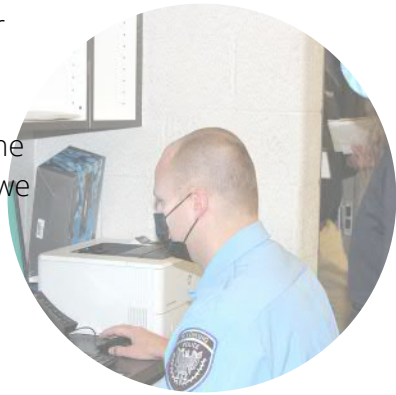
The Wyoming Police honor guard, under the direction of Lt. Pols, is comprised of 15 specially trained officers of varying rank. This is a support team within the department and officers only spend a portion of their time dedicated to this role. Often honor guard staff will attend line of duty funerals to honor those that have given the ultimate sacrifice and laid down their life in the protection of others. The honor guard continues to partner with the Kent Metro Honor Guard for training opportunities and representation at various events. In addition to funerals, the team is utilized at events such as swearing in ceremonies for new hires, retirement ceremonies, the annual awards ceremony, local and regional law enforcement officer memorial events, parades, and other holidays and observances.



CADET PROGRAM

Our relatively new Cadet Program is made up of college-age individuals who have an interest in pursuing a career in law enforcement in the future. Their presence is usually seen in our main lobby by assisting citizens who come to the police department to file police reports, but they also serve many other roles behind the scenes. Cadets fulfill various clerical functions while giving them exposure to the daily procedures conducted in this field. This program is a valuable recruiting tool by creating a working relationship with future potential police officer candidates.

Since its inception, the program has continued to expand and has allowed us to increase the level of customer service to the community. As we continued to add cadet staff members, we have been able to increase the open lobby hours and provide other services that were previously unavailable.



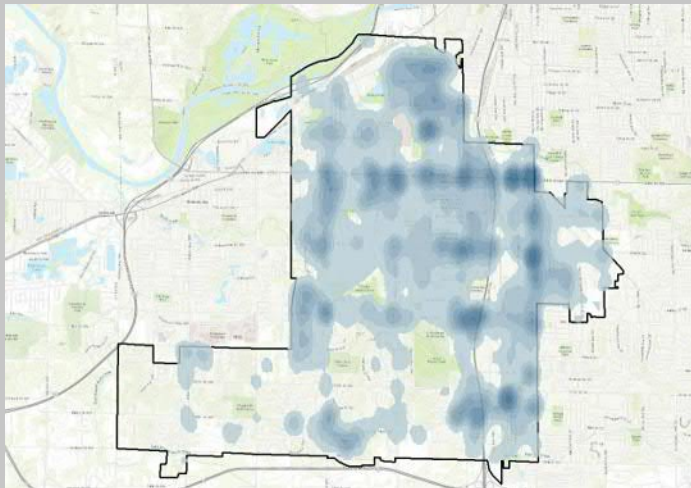
WELLNESS PROGRAM

The Wellness Program is a holistic approach to improve the overall health of our officers. The program allows officers to use their meal break time to get in a workout in the weight room at the police department. Physical fitness is a standard in the law enforcement profession, and focusing on physical and mental health has proven to reduce the potential for officer injury while helping to alleviate many of the physical ailments that are caused by the mental and physical stress placed on our bodies.

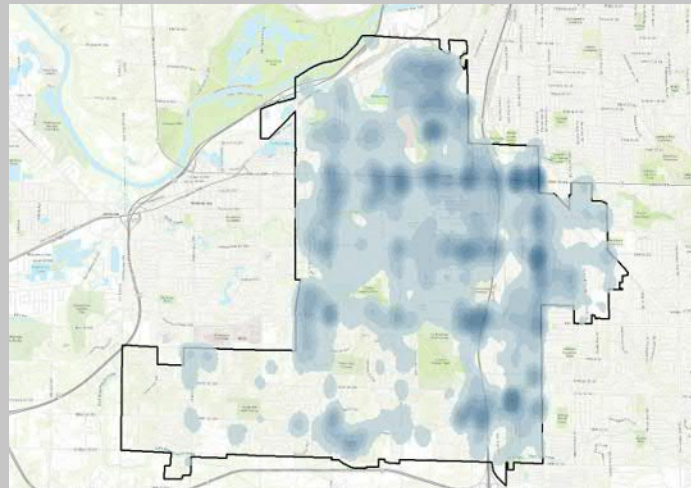
Twice a year, in the spring and fall, officers are encouraged to participate in a Wellness Assessment to help staff evaluate their personal level of fitness. In order to ensure that staff are meeting their fitness goals, the department has sponsored officers to become certified personal trainers through the Cooper Institute. This ensures that officers are learning proper technique and setting reasonable goals when approaching a plan for improved physical fitness.



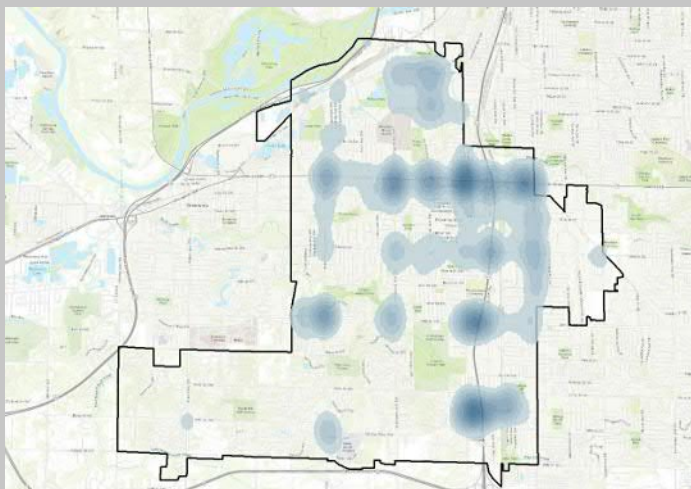
CRIME DATA



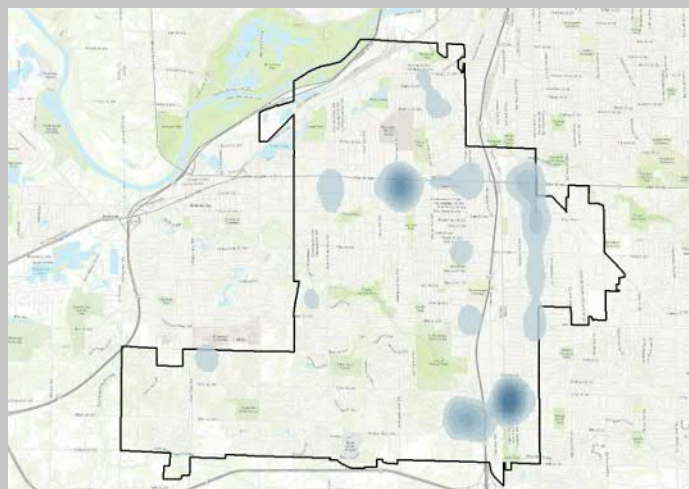
2020 CALLS FOR SERVICE



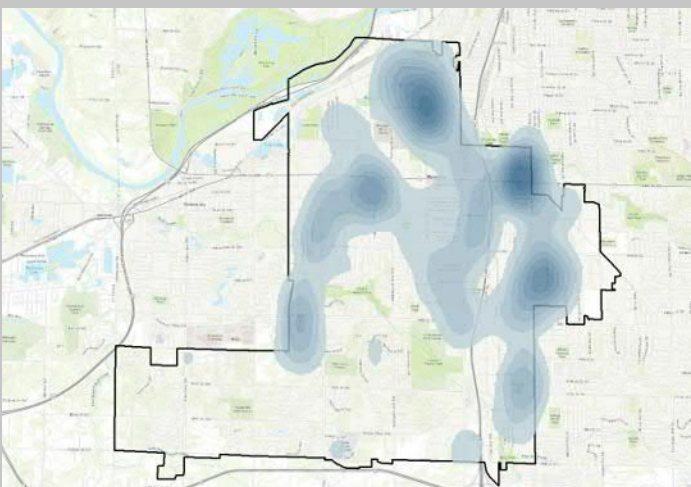
2020 OFFENSES COMMITTED



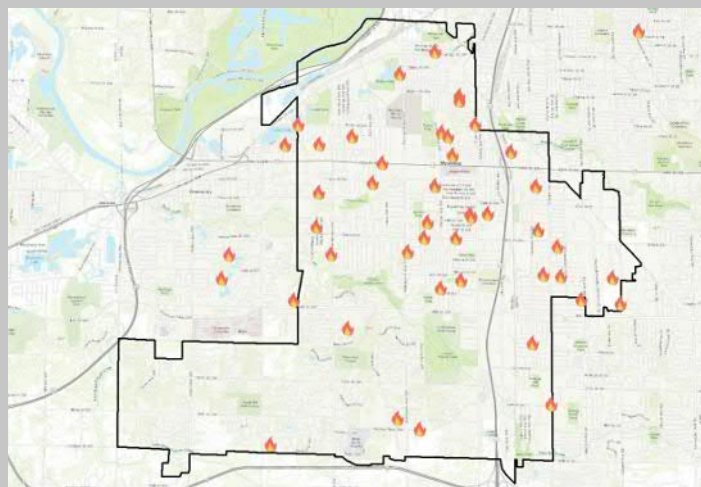
2020 TRAFFIC CRASHES



2020 PROPERTY CRIMES



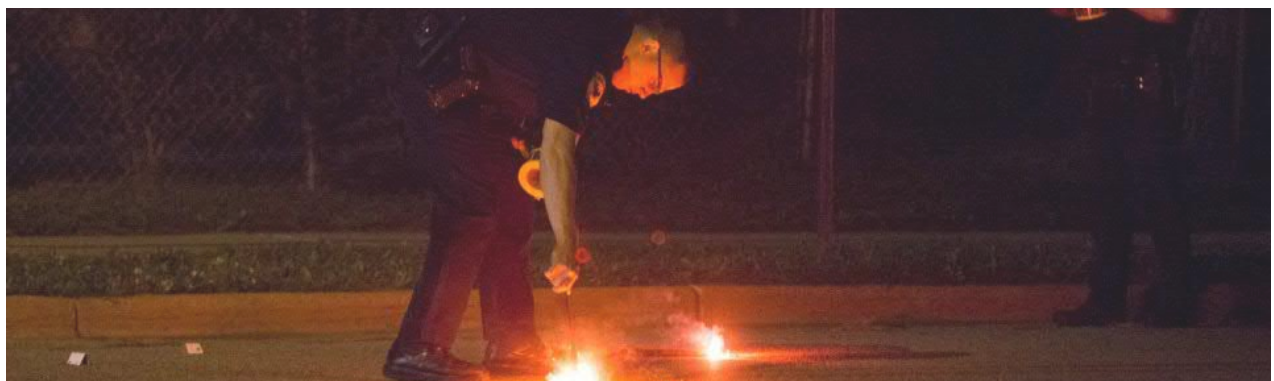
2020 VIOLENT CRIMES



2020 FIRES

CRIME DATA

Category	2018	2019	2020
INDEX CRIME	---	---	---
Calls for Service	43166	42893	40038
Homicide	5	4	8
CSC	49	42	58
Robbery	59	68	84
Aggravated Assault	240	249	361
Arson	7	9	19
Burglary	218	255	330
Larceny	1223	1438	1411
Motor Vehicle Theft	131	222	297
NON-INDEX CRIME	---	---	---
Non-aggravated Assault	1034	1178	1622
Forgery/Counterfeiting	74	112	48
Fraud	438	435	357
Embezzlement	61	41	26
Vandalism	328	305	425
Weapons Offenses	30	39	48
Controlled Substances	559	179	132
Operating while Impaired	244	209	142
Disorderly Conduct	225	259	246
Misc. Minor Offenses	953	1124	961
ARREST DATA	---	---	---
Total Arrests	3741 (45% residents)	3263 (46% residents)	2,438 (53% residents)
Adult Arrests	3472	2972	2210
Juvenile Arrests	269	291	228
TRAFFIC DATA	---	---	---
Traffic Stops	6535		3426
Hazardous Citations			
Non-Hazardous Citations			
Traffic Crashes - Total	2340	2441	1946
Traffic Crashes – Fatal	7	5	9
Traffic Crashes – Injury	463	483	402
Traffic Crashes Prop Damage	1870	1953	1535



FIRE SERVICES BUREAU



FIRE SERVICES BUREAU



A MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF BENNETT

The Wyoming Fire Services Bureau is a well- trained, dedicated group of men and women who are characterized by integrity, customer focus, and value placed on people. The Fire Division is led by Fire Chief Brian Bennett, Deputy Fire Chief Dennis VanTassell, and 3 shift Lieutenants: Chris Velzen, Bryan Butcher and Brad Deppe. The Fire Prevention, Inspection, and Investigation Division is led by Fire Marshal Bill Aman and Fire Inspector Brad Dornbos.

The year began as many in the past, but by early March 2020, things began to take on a much different look. The Department faced the fast spreading COVID-19 pandemic. The EMS portion of the Department has always had protocols in place to protect our Responders from communicable diseases, but COVID brought many new challenges. From wearing gloves, masks, and gowns to myriad other precautions, COVID-19 began to require extreme measures and new ways of thinking to limit exposure risks to our first responders and the people we serve. We separated our crews and wore masks in the stations and while traveling in our fire apparatus. The biggest challenge was the exposure protocols were changing weekly and sometimes daily along with the routine calls that we are accustomed to responding to. Firefighters adapt very well to fast changing events which is why I believe we were able to keep pace with the ever-changing response and safety protocols that were being put in place. I am extremely proud of the professionalism our Firefighters showed in the daily response to our citizens and keeping our Department and their families safe over the past year. Let's keep working on reducing the spread and hopefully get back to enjoying some things that we have gone without.

Stay safe,
Fire Chief Brian Bennett

FIRE SERVICES

The Fire Services Bureau, led by Fire Chief Bennett, is responsible for responding to all fire, hazmat, water rescue and medical emergencies in the City of Wyoming. Firefighters respond to emergencies from one of the four fire stations in the city. In addition to providing services to our citizens, our Fire Department also provides mutual aid to surrounding agencies who request it.

The Fire Department utilizes specialized equipment to achieve their mission. The fleet consists of four fire engines, two ladder trucks, two Quick Response Vehicles (QRV's), and two medic units. For medical emergencies, which require fewer staff to respond, firefighters travel in a QRV, which is smaller than the other fire engines, but is also equipped with firefighting equipment for smaller fires. In 2020, the Fire Department was approved and ordered two more QRV's, but the fulfillment of the vehicles has been delayed due to Covid.

In 2020, Fire Services:

Responded to a total of 6402 Calls for Service

Responded to 196 Fire Calls

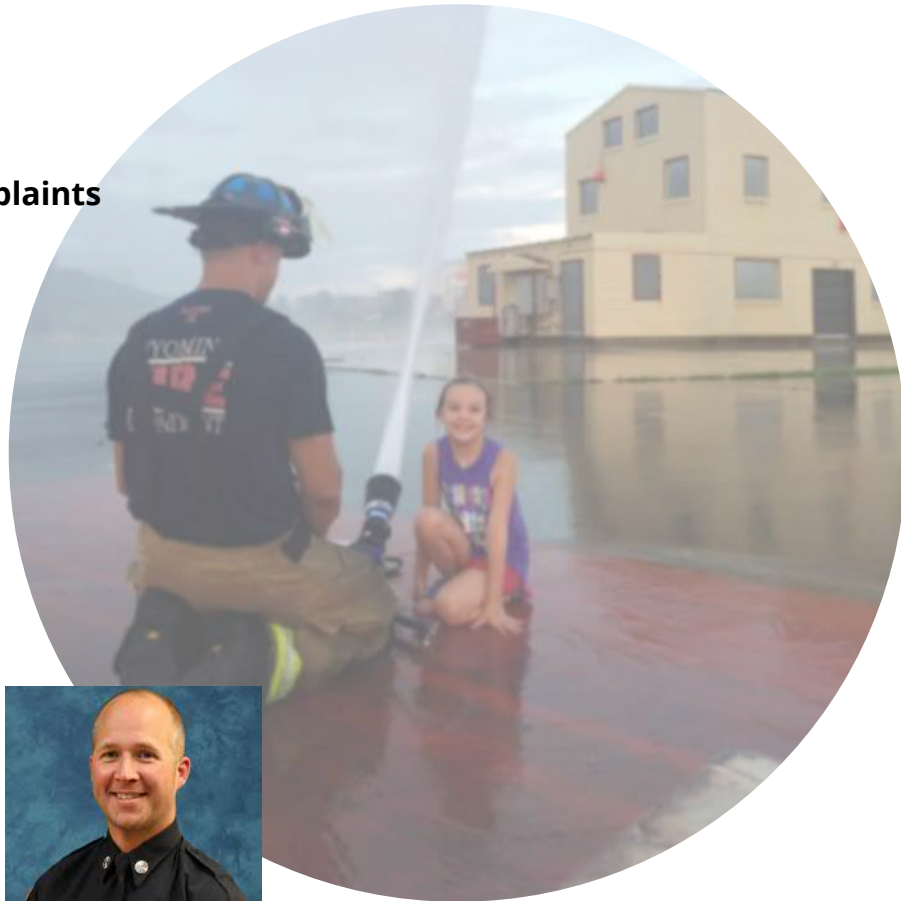
Responded to 4501 EMS Calls

Provided Mutual Aid 56 times

Received Mutual Aid 133 times

Responded to 113 unauthorized burn complaints

Responded to 129 Cardiac Arrest Incidents



FIRE SERVICES

TRAINING

One of the most dangerous professions is that of A firefighter. Although the instances of responding to a structure fire are more rare in occurrence, they are far more dangerous than the medical emergency calls that make up the majority of fire's response. Extreme heat, dangerous gases, and explosive materials are just some of the elements that firefighters have to deal with. In order to keep our fire fighting men and women safe, our department is dedicated to providing continual, up to date training to prevent and avoid injury or death while delivering the highest quality of care to our citizens.

Our training facility located at Fire Station No. 3 on Gezon Pkwy, includes a separate building designated for training sessions, and a special "burn building" that uses propane fueled fire to simulate real-life firefighting scenarios.

All full-time fire personnel are state certified as Firefighter II, licensed Emergency Medical Technicians, water rescue and Hazardous Material Responders. In addition to their initial certifications, firefighters must participate in continuing education to maintain their licenses and to keep up with industry standards. EMT licenses are required to receive 30 continuing education credits every three years. Depending on their specialized certifications, firefighters also need to participate in continuing education to maintain certifications.

Many firefighters are also certified as trainers to provide first responder education to other disciplines within the city, and fire suppression education to other members of the Fire Department and other agencies.

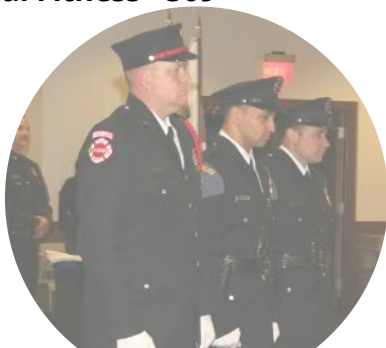
Fire prevention is also a primary focus of the Fire Department. Fire Prevention occurs through education, inspections, plan reviews and building code enforcements. Fire safety presentations can be arranged through Fire Administration.

WYFD 2020 Training Hours:

Fire - 2458

EMS - 374

Physical Fitness - 509



HONOR GUARD

The Wyoming Fire Department maintains an Honor Guard Unit consisting of 8 members who provide a professional, uniformed presence at special events and funerals to honor fallen or retired firefighters.

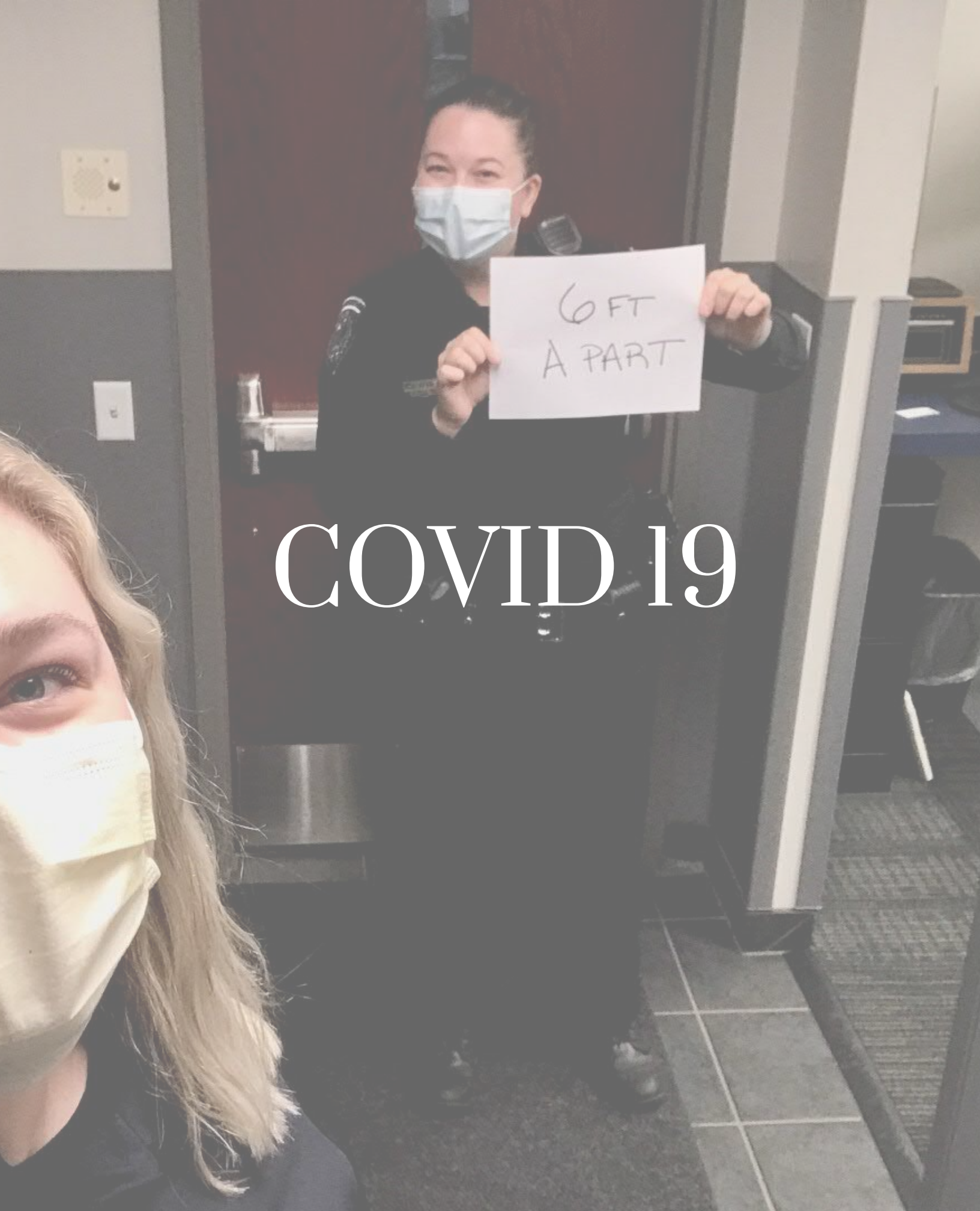
WYFD and WYPD Honor Guard Units work together to present the colors at City of Wyoming ceremonial events.



AWARDS & COMMENDATIONS

Awards and Commendations for the Wyoming Police and Fire Departments will be announced in July, 2021.





COVID 19



PANDEMIC RESPONSE

The emergence of a highly-contagious virus in the United States in the early months of 2020 caused concern early on for the members of the Wyoming Police and Fire Departments.

There was no way to know though, the extent of what was to come. Life as we all knew it would dramatically change as our day to day routines became day to day survival that would last through the end of 2020 and beyond. In March 2020, the Governor's orders to shut down the state greatly impacted how we could serve our community and we adopted daily procedures that we never imagined would be put into practice.

At the Police Department, the need to socially distance 6 feet did not allow us to meet with the citizens calling on us for assistance. Many reports were taken over the phone rather than in person, and sadly, many just chose not to call the police for issues. WYPD had to limit daily practices, such as conducting traffic stops unless absolutely necessary. Individuals who were placed under arrest could no longer go to jail unless they committed an assaultive or violent crime. Many of the calls for service involved complaints about non-essential businesses not complying with the Governor's orders to shut down.

To mitigate the potential spread of Covid amongst officers, the squads in the Investigative and Patrol Divisions were separated and worked opposite days. Detectives and officers were discouraged from having any contact with co-workers outside of their squads. When one officer experienced symptoms, the rest of the squad had to be quarantined and members of the squad from another shift had to cover work hours.

The Fire Department had unique challenges as members typically respond together in close quarters to emergency calls. Firefighters also work 24 hr shifts and spend a portion of their time sleeping in shared quarters. Social distancing was much more difficult than at the police department. Fire Services worked to limit contact with each other by spreading out staff throughout the 4 fire stations. The use of part-time firefighters was discontinued to limit increased contact. Only one responder had direct contact with patients instead of 2 to limit exposures. Like WYPD, the WYFD had a contingency plan to supplement staff in case a whole squad became infected or had to be quarantined.

WYPD and WYFD adapted during the pandemic to comply with each new order from the State of Michigan without compromising the level of service to the community. Although calls for service, traffic stops, records requests, and the need for many of the services we provide decreased, WYPD and WYFD never skipped a beat. We remained ready and able to provide the level of service we are known for. We continued to reach out to the community in ways we never imagined. Participating in drive by birthday parties and virtual city council meetings became the norm.

As inconvenient as it was, the pandemic served to highlight our resilience and adaptability as we navigated the murky waters. Perhaps we will not experience anything like it in our lifetimes, hopefully not, but whatever obstacles do come our way, we've learned that we can adapt and overcome.

